

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01

SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 NEA-09 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ACDA-10

IGA-01 SAB-01 NIC-01 /157 W  
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R 131129Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9746

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 BANGKOK 0596

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, ETRD, TH, CH

SUBJ: DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN ON HIS TRIP TO  
PEKING

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN GAVE A NEWS CONFERENCE  
AT DON MUANG AIRPORT ON 10 JANUARY 1975 ON HIS RETURN FROM  
THE PRC. THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM AN UNOFFICIAL USIS  
TRANSLATION OF CHATCHAI'S REMARKS. BEGIN EXCERPTS:

CHATCHAI: ON ARRIVAL AT KWANGCHOW RAILWAY STATION, WE WERE MET  
BY MR. WANG NEN-SI, VICE CHAIRMAN OF FOREIGN RELATIONS. ... WE  
WERE MET AT THE (PEKING) AIRPORT BY THE VICE CHAIRMAN FOR  
PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

THE NEXT MORNING, ABOUT 10 A.M., I MET MR. WANG YAO-TING, THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINA COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROMOTION.  
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WE HAD A FAIRLY LONG CONVERSATION AND AN INVITATION WAS

EXTENDED TO HIM TO VISIT THAILAND ALSO...OIL WAS NATURALLY THE SUBJECT MAINLY DISCUSSED BECAUSE I HAD BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH THE TASK TO HOLD NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF OIL, AND HE GAVE ME ASSURANCES THAT I WOULD NOT RETURN TO THAILAND EMPTY-HANDED FROM THIS VISIT.... THE NEXT DAY, I MET DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER HAN NIEN LUNG AND WE TALKED OF VARIOUS MATTERS AND EXCHANGED VIEWS. AS I HAD INFORMED YOU BEFORE I LEFT THAILAND, I SPOKE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN, OF THE GOOD RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN THAILAND AND THE NEW LAO GOVERNMENT. THEN WE SPOKE OF THE CAMBODIA ISSUE, ON WHICH WE ARE OF THE SAME VIEW THAT CAMBODIA MUST DETERMINE THAT ISSUE ITSELF, THAT THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE MUST REMEDY AND OVERCOME IT THEMSELVES. ON THE LAST DAY, BEFORE I RETURNED HERE, NO AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED YET ON THE PRICE OF OIL, THEREFORE I HELD ANOTHER MEETING ON JANUARY 8, AT 10 A.M., WITH MR. WANG YAO-TING, CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINA COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROMOTION. IN THE END, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED FOR US TO BUY A LARGER AMOUNT OF OIL THAN WE HAD BOUGHT THE FIRST TIME.

REPORTER: COULD YOU DISCLOSE THE AMOUNT?

CHATCHAI: 75,000 TONS, AT A SPECIAL AID PRICE. IT IS LOWER THAN THE MARKET PRICE, AND THE OIL WILL BE DELIVERED C.I.F. (COST, INCLUDING INSURANCE, FREIGHT, ETC.) TO THAILAND. DELIVERY MIGHT BE STARTED IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH, BUT I REQUESTED IT TO BE DELIVERED IN FEBRUARY.

ON THE EVENING OF JANUARY 8, FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KONG HUA GAVE A DINNER IN MY HONOR .... AFTER THE DINNER, THE FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD ME IN A WHISPER THAT PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI REQUESTED ME TO GO AND MEET HIM AT THE HOSPITAL AT 10 P.M.....HE SAID THE PREMIER IS NOT IN GOOD HEALTH, THAT HE IS IN THE HOSPITAL AND HE SELDOM RECEIVES ANY VISITORS. I RETURNED TO THE HOTEL FIRST, AND WHEN I WENT TO MEET PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI I WAS ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY KHUN KOSON, WHO IS DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF OUR POLITICAL DEPARTMENT. THE REASON FOR THIS IS BECAUSE THE HOSPITAL IS SMALL. I ASKED HOW LONG I COULD VISIT THE PREMIER, BECAUSE PRINCE WAN HAD REQUESTED ME TO DELIVER A LETTER TO HIM SINCE HE AND

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PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI ARE OLD ACQUAINTANCES. I WAS INFORMED THAT I WOULD BE ABLE TO PAY HIM A 5-10 MINUTE VISIT. WHEN THE CAR STOPPED IN FRONT OF THE HOSPITAL, PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI WAS STANDING AT THE DOOR TO WELCOME ME, BEFORE I HAD EVEN TIME TO TAKE OFF MY OVERCOAT. HE TOOK US INTO A RECEPTION ROOM, RESERVED ESPECIALLY FOR HIS GUESTS. WE EXCHANGED VIEWS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WORLD SITUATION, ESPECIALLY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, IN THE MIDDLE EAST, IN LAOS

AND IN CAMBODIA. THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES BY GRADUAL DEGREES FROM THAILAND WAS ALSO MENTIONED.

I MUST REFRAIN FROM GIVING YOU DETAILS UNTIL AFTER I HAVE MADE A REPORT TO THE PRIME MINISTER FIRST. THOUGH I WAS INFORMED BEFOREHAND THAT I WOULD BE ABLE TO MEET PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI FOR ABOUT 10 MINUTES ONLY, HE WAS SO KIND AS TO HOLD A CONVERSATION WITH ME THAT LASTED AS LONG AS 45 MINUTES. THEN I TOOK LEAVE OF HIM. I FELT THAT HIS HEALTH HAS IMPROVED AND THAT HE IS STILL AS ACTIVE AS EVER, AS CAN BE SEEN CLEARLY FROM PICTURES OF HIM.

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R 131129Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9747

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 3 BANGKOK 0596

REPORTER: DID YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET OTHER PERSONS YOU HAD PLANNED TO MEET?

CHATCHAI: OH, ID DIDN'T MEET MR. WANG WUN WERN, BECAUSE HE WAS IN CHANGHAI AT THE TIME, AND I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO GO

THERE.....

REPORTER: WHO ARE THE PERSONS YOU HAVE INVITED TO MAKE VISITS TO THAILAND?

CHATCHAI: I HAD EXTENDED INVITATIONS TO TWO PERSONS SOME TIME AGO. THEY ARE MR. WANG YAO-TING, CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINA COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROMOTION, AND DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER HAN NIEN-LUNG. I UNDERSTAND THAT THEY WILL MOST PROBABLY COME AND VISIT THAILAND IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND MR. WANG YAO-TING WILL BRING TRADE REPRESENTATIVES WITH HIM.

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REPORTER: DOES THAT MEAN THEY WILL COME BEFORE THE DATE FIXED FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION?

CHATCHAI: I DON'T KNOW. THERE IS NO NECESSITY FOR THEIR VISITS TO BE MADE DURING THE TERM OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT. IT WILL MAKE NO DIFFERENCE WHAT GOVERNMENT IS IN ADMINISTRATION OF OUR COUNTRY.

REPORTER: WHEN YOU MET THE PREMIER OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, DID YOU DISCUSS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH HIM?

CHATCHAI: THAT SUBJECT WAS NOT MENTIONED AT ALL.

REPORTER: DID YOU DISCUSS THE TAIWAN ISSUE?

CHATCHAI: NO, IT WAS NOT MENTIONED. I SPOKE ON MATTERS IN GENERAL ONLY, CONCENTRATING ESPECIALLY ON THE SUBJECT OF OIL, WHICH IS IMPORTANT.

REPORTER: DO YOU THINK THAT YOUR MEETING WITH THE CHINESE PREMIER, AND YOUR TALK ON POLITICAL MATTERS, WILL RESULT IN PROMOTING CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES?

CHATCHAI: IT WILL MAKE THEM CLOSER, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE IN THIS SECOND MEETING, OUR TALKS WERE MOST INFORMAL AND INTIMATE.

REPORTER: IN YOUR FORMER MEETING WITH PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI, HE WARNED US TO BE ON OUR GUARD AGAINST THE EXPANSION OF RUSSIA'S INFLUENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. DID HE GIVE ANY WARNING DURING THIS SECOND MEETING?

CHATCHAI: WHEN I MET HIM THE FIRST TIME, NO INCIDENTS HAD OCCURRED IN THE INDIAN OCEAN YET.

REPORTER: BUT THERE WERE SOME MINOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SITUA-

TION, AND HE GAVE YOU A WARNING.

CHATCHAI: THE SITUATION HAS DEVELOPED AS WE THOUGHT IT WOULD.

REPORTER: WHAT IS CHINA'S VIEW IN REGARD TO THE INDIAN OCEAN?

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CHATCHAI: NO MENTION WAS MADE OF IT. ALL THAT WAS SAID WAS THAT IT IS NOT GOOD THAT WE HAVE A COAST ADJOINING THE INDIAN OCEAN, WHERE TWO WORLD POWERS ARE INCREASING THEIR MILITARY MIGHT. IT INDICATED SYMPATHY FELT FOR THAILAND.

REPORTER: WHAT ABOUT THE QUESTION OF ASEAN NEUTRALITY?

CHATCHAI: THAT WAS DISCUSSED, BUT IT IS NOT A SUBJECT WHICH IS NEW FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, BECAUSE IT KNOWS FULL WELL ALREADY THAT IT IS OUR OBJECTIVE TO BE NEUTRAL IN THE FUTURE, AND ESPECIALLY SINCE A START HAS BEEN MADE ALREADY IN RELATIONS BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND THAILAND.

REPORTER: WHAT IS PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI'S VIEW ON THE MIDDLE EAST ISSUE?

CHATCHAI: HIS VIEW IS THAT HE FEELS THE SITUATION IS STILL DANGEROUS.

REPORTER: DID HE MAKE ANY MENTION OF NORTH VIETNAM?

CHATCHAI: I INFORMED HIM THAT THE GREATEST EFFORTS POSSIBLE ARE BEING MADE TO HAVE CONTACTS WITH NORTH VIETNAM, EFFORTS TO BE RECONCILED, FOR THE SAKE OF THE FUTURE. WE MUST NOT REMAIN BACKWARD, BECAUSE ALL NATIONS ARE CONCENTRATING ON DEVELOPING THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES AT PRESENT AND EMPHASIS IS BEING PLACED ON BUILDING UP THE ECONOMY RATHER THAN ON FIGHTING.

REPORTER: WHAT VIEW DID HE EXPRESS?

CHATCHAI: HE IS OF THE SAME VIEW AS OURS THAT ALL COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA OUGHT TO BE RECONCILED WITH ONE ANOTHER.

REPORTER: DID HE OFFER AID IN ANY FORM TO PROMOTE CLOSER RELATIONS?

CHATCHAI: NO OFFER WAS MADE AT ALL. HE KNOWS ALREADY THAT WE HAVE CONTACTS FOR EXCHANGE OF NEWS, THAT LETTERS HAVE BEEN EXCHANGED, AND THIS IS WHAT IS CALLED AN EFFORT  
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TO TURN TOWARD EACH OTHER.

REPORTER: THOUGH NO MENTION WAS MADE REGARDING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS DURING THIS VISIT YOU MADE, DID YOU ASSERT THAI GOVERNMENT POLICY THAT THAILAND ADHERES TO THE POLICY OF ONLY ONE CHINA?

CHATCHAI: I MADE NO SUCH ASSERTION AT ALL. AS I HAVE INFORMED YOU ALREADY, I WENT TO PEKING THIS TIME TO NEGOTIATE THE PURCHASE OF OIL ONLY. I NEVER EVEN MENTIONED THE SUBJECT OF RECOGNITION OF WHICH CHINA.

REPORTER: DID YOU HOLD TALKS ON A LONG RANGE PLAN IN REGARD TO THE PURCHASE OF OIL?

CHATCHAI: NO, BECAUSE SINCE WE HAVE STARTED MAKING CONTACTS LIKE THIS ALREADY, CONTACTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE THROUGHOUT. IT IS A FACT THAT SINCE WE HAVE OBTAINED 50,000 TONS OF OIL ALREADY, WE OUGHT TO HAVE OBTAINED 75,000 TONS MORE ALREADY, AND WE SHOULD HAVE CONTINUED OBTAINING 75,000 TONS MORE STEADILY UNTIL WE HAD OBTAINED THE TOTAL OF 200,000 TONS, OR MORE. BUT ORDER NO. 53 OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY WAS THE OBSTACLE WHICH MADE FURTHER PURCHASES OF OIL COME TO A STANDSTILL FOR AS LONG AS ONE YEAR.

REPORTER: WHERE AND WHEN WILL THE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THESE 75,000 TONS OF OIL BE SIGNED?

CHATCHAI: I HAVE SIGNED THE AGREEMENT ALREADY, BUT ANOTHER CONTRACT STILL REMAINS TO BE SIGNED. THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY ME AND MR. WANG YAO-TING, CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINA COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROMOTION. BUT THE CONTRACT WHICH HAS STILL TO BE SIGNED CONCERNS DETAILS, SUCH AS WHEN THE SHIP DELIVERING THE OIL WILL ARRIVE, THE OPENING OF A LETTER OF CREDIT, ETC. WHEN THE SHIP ARRIVES IN PORT, THEN THE DIRECTOR OF THE FUEL OIL ORGANIZATION WILL HAVE TO SIGN THAT CONTRACT, BECAUSE HE POSSESSES THE AUTHORITY UNDER LAW.

REPORTER: WILL NEGOTIATIONS BE STARTED FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE REMAINING 75,000 TONS OF OIL?

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CHATCHAI: THIS CONSIGNMENT MUST BE DELIVERED FIRST BEFORE FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE STARTED.

REPORTER: DON'T YOU FEEL THAT THESE FEW TENS OF THOUSANDS  
OF TONS OF OIL CHINA IS GIVING US IS A VERY SMALL AMOUNT,  
BECAUSE AT THE SAME TIME IT IS GIVING THE PHILIPPINES  
MILLIONS OF TONS?

CHATCHAI: THAT'S NOT TRUE. NOBODY DISCLOSES THE ACTUAL  
AMOUNT OBTAINED. THE REASON WHY I HAVE DISCLOSED  
THE PURCHASE OF THIS 75,000 TONS IS BECAUSE WE OUGHT TO  
TRY TO CUT DOWN USE OF OIL. CHINA HAS CUT DOWN THE USE OF  
MOTOR VEHICLES TO THE MINIMUM, AND THE CHINESE PEOPLE USE  
MANPOWER MAINLY. FOR INSTANCE, PERSONS GOING TO AND FROM  
WORK USE BICYCLES. HERE IN THAILAND IT IS A COMMON SIGHT

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9748

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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TO SEE CARS WITH NO PASSENGERS IN THEM BEING DRIVEN ALONG  
ROADS EVERYWHERE. BUT IN CHINA, EMPTY CARS ARE SELDOM, IF  
EVER, SEEN ANYWHERE. THEY WAIT UNTIL PASSENGERS FILL A CAR  
TO CAPACITY, OR TRUCKS ARE LOADED FULL WITH GOODS BEFORE THE  
DRIVERS LEAVE FOR THEIR DESTINATION.

REPORTER: WHEN CHINA SOLD US THE FIRST CONSIGNMENT OF 500,000 TONS OF OIL, A CONDITION IMPOSED WAS THAT IT MUST BE USED FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES. IS THERE ANY CONDITION IMPOSED FOR THIS SECOND CONSIGNMENT OF 75,000 TONS OF OIL SOLD US?

CHATCHAI: THERE IS THE SAME CONDITION SPECIFIED AS IN THE FORMER AGREEMENT. THE OIL MUST BE USED FOR CIVILIAN ACTIVITIES ONLY, AND IT MUST NOT BE REEXPORTED. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IN THE NEW AGREEMENT IS IN REGARD TO THE AMOUNT OF THE OIL SOLD US, WHICH IS CONSIDERABLY INCREASED THIS TIME.  
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REPORTER: HOW MUCH HOPE DO WE HAVE TO OBTAIN MORE OIL FROM CHINA IN THE FUTURE?

CHATCHAI: I CANNOT PREDICT THE FUTURE. ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF OIL IN OUR COUNTRY AT PRESENT AND THE PRICE WILL NOT BE INCREASED, BUT AT THE SAME TIME WE MUST BE MORE THRIFTY IN THE USE OF OIL.

REPORTER: DO YOU THINK THAT THIS OIL GIVEN US BY CHINA WILL AFFECT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES?

CHATCHAI: VERY MUCH INDEED. IT WILL HELP MAKE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES CLOSER AND CREATE GOOD MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.

REPORTER: WHAT I MEANT IS TO WHAT EXTENT WILL CHINA SUPPORT US, WHETHER IT WILL LEAD TO OUR ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IT, OR TO CLOSER RELATIONS WITH IT, AND TO WHAT EXTENT?

CHATCHAI: MY VIEW IS THAT OIL IS OIL, AND THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ARE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT MATTER, WHICH MUST BE KEPT SEPARATE. I WENT TO PEKING TO HOLD TALKS ON OIL ONLY.

REPORTER: BUT YOU HAVE ALWAYS SAID THAT TRADE AND POLITICS MUST GO TOGETHER, HAND IN HAND?

CHATCHAI: THAT IS ONLY VERY ORDINARY, BECAUSE IF MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP DOES NOT EXIST, TALKS CANNOT BE HELD, AND THERE CAN BE NO TRADE. IN THIS CASE, THERE IS TRADE AND SINCE MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP EXISTS, IT GREATLY FACILITATES TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

REPORTER: DO YOU GATHER FROM TALKS YOU HELD WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINA COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROMOTION, THAT HE FEELS THAT TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL BE SMOOTH AND GOOD?



CHATCHAI: HE BELIEVES THAT GOOD RESULTS WILL BE OBTAINED  
AND THAT TRADE WILL BE SMOOTH AND SATISFACTORY.

REPORTER: WHEN YOU SPOKE OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN MILITARY  
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FORCES FROM THAILAND ON THIS VISIT, WHAT VIEW DID PREMIER  
CHOU EN--LAI MAKE ON THIS SUBJECT?

CHATCHAI: OH, CHINA UNDERSTANDS THE SITUATION IN REGARD  
TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES, AND IT ALSO  
KNOWS THAT THREE BASES HAVE BEEN CLOSED DOWN ALREADY.  
END EXCERPTS.  
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